

WHAT SPORTSMEN ARE TALKING ABOUT



Lew McCarty Now the Big Catching Sensation In the National League



Photo by American Press Association.

BROOKLYN baseball fans have gone wild over the playing of Lew McCarty, the Brooklyn Nationals' young star catcher. He is now sharing the honors along with Jake Daubert, Nap Rucker and Zach Wheat and the most popular players on the team. Right now Brooklyn fans believe he is the greatest young backstop in the league. During the absence of Daubert recently McCarty held down first base in masterly style.

CLARK GRIFFITH'S THEORY IS PROVED BY BEEBE

A GOOD many years ago Clark Griffith, then actively engaged in pitching, remarked: "A pitcher never knows anything until his arm goes to the bad. Then he has to make his head do what formerly has been accomplished by his muscles."

"Griffith never spoke truer words," says Fred Beebe, Cleveland's famous comeback hurler. "In fact, I am a living example of the truth of his statement."

At the end of the 1910 campaign Fred told his employers, who were the owners of the Cincinnati Nationals, that he was through with baseball, that he ruined his arm by pitching curve balls and he would be obtaining money under false pretences if he continued to draw a big league salary. So he just up and quit the national pastime.

He retired to his farm, being under the impression that his pitching days were over. But somehow or other the national pastime kept whispering to him, and he finally gave his arm another trial the following spring. To his surprise, and also greatly to his satisfaction, he discovered that, while he could not throw his famous old roundhouse curve, he could throw another sort of a looper that puzzled the batters he tried it on.

He also found that by stowing away in his brain a bunch of notes in reference to the batters, he faced he was able to fool them by pitching them the shots they did not want. Ever keeping in mind each batter's groove and perfecting his control so as to refrain

from pitching in that groove, he felt satisfied he could again hold his own in fast company and consequently informed Cincinnati he was ready for duty again.

Cincinnati, however, was in the midst of a big deal with Philadelphia and included Fred in that trade. He reported to Philadelphia and won five and lost three games. When Red Doolin had the misfortune to break one of his legs Doolin decided he needed a real catcher right away. He also decided that Killifer of Buffalo was the catcher he wanted. But Buffalo would not give Killifer up without getting a good pitcher in exchange, so Doolin was forced to let Beebe go. It was easy to get waivers on him, for the other National league owners were of the opinion he was through.

Fred served four years for Buffalo, winning seventy-six and losing forty-one games, coming through with twenty-seven victories during the 1915 campaign. Of course he could have remained in Buffalo until he actually was through, but Pat Donovan did not see his way clear to meet his salary demands, and that is how Cleveland was allowed to dicker with him.

Fred always has been more or less, principally more, of a strikeout pitcher, his banner performance being given his first year as a professional hurler, when, after serving for three years in the semipro ranks, he joined Oshkosh of the Wisconsin league and won twenty-seven games and lost but seven, striking out 291 batters.

Jack Barry In Good Form



JACK BARRY, the Boston Red Sox short fielder, seems to have recovered his old time form and is now performing in his old brilliant style in the field, at the bat and on the bases. His good all around work has had much to do with the recent good showing of the Red Sox.

MANY HARVARD STARS TO COACH NEXT FALL

THE so-called Harvard football system is going to get a thorough trying out next fall, when a dozen or more graduates of the Haughton football school will endeavor to pass on their knowledge of the game to other men still in college. From north to south and from ocean to ocean disciples of the great Harvard coach will be engaged in further disseminating his ideas of the great college pastime.

The football captains of the past two years will both be out in togs the coming season to teach the future heroes of the gridiron their game. Eddie Mahan, the great halfback of the 41-0 team, will coach the back field at the University of California, while Charley Brickley obtained his release from Johns Hopkins in order to coach Boston college.

Chick Evans After Another Golf Title



Photo by American Press Association.

NOW that Chick Evans has won the national open title he will make a determined bid for the national amateur championship at Merion to establish an American precedent for holding both titles at the same time. This has never been accomplished on this side of the water and only on one occasion abroad. John Ball, the perennial amateur champion of Great Britain, won the amateur championship at Hoylake in 1890 and the open at Prestwick.

Retirement of Willard Means Title For Dillon

AFTER an era of six foot rhapsodically champions and white hopes the mind grasps but slowly the idea that a 165 pound man might win and successfully defend against all comers the honors of a world's champion fighter.

Sheer bulk, like that owned by the Willards, Morris and other 250-pounders, seems to carry with it an impression of invincibility.

Therefore the belief that the miniature "giant killer," Dillon, could lay low 250 pounds of trained bone and muscle of known enduring power is not taking deep root anywhere.

And yet Dillon—at least for publication—has stated that he believed he could defeat Willard. And he earned the right to some consideration by easily outpointing Frank Moran, a 204 pound six footer.

In the days of Jim Mace the axiom was advanced that a 155 pounder was heavy enough for any world's champion.

Willard, are only a few men, like Carl Morris, Fred Fulton and Frank Moran. Dillon appears to have beaten the best of these pretenders, so that, except Jess Willard, he really may have a look in.

However, don't overlook Carl Morris, who recently stopped Dan Dally, another 240 pounder, in a punch. Morris is a big behemoth of gigantic size, strength and unlimited gameness. He might wear down a smaller man, despite punishment, and outlast him.

Undoubtedly, however, Dillon is in a position to demand consideration as a world's title prospect, despite his size. Until he is beaten by Willard or some other "big un" he must be reckoned with.

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Hal Chase Playing Great Game

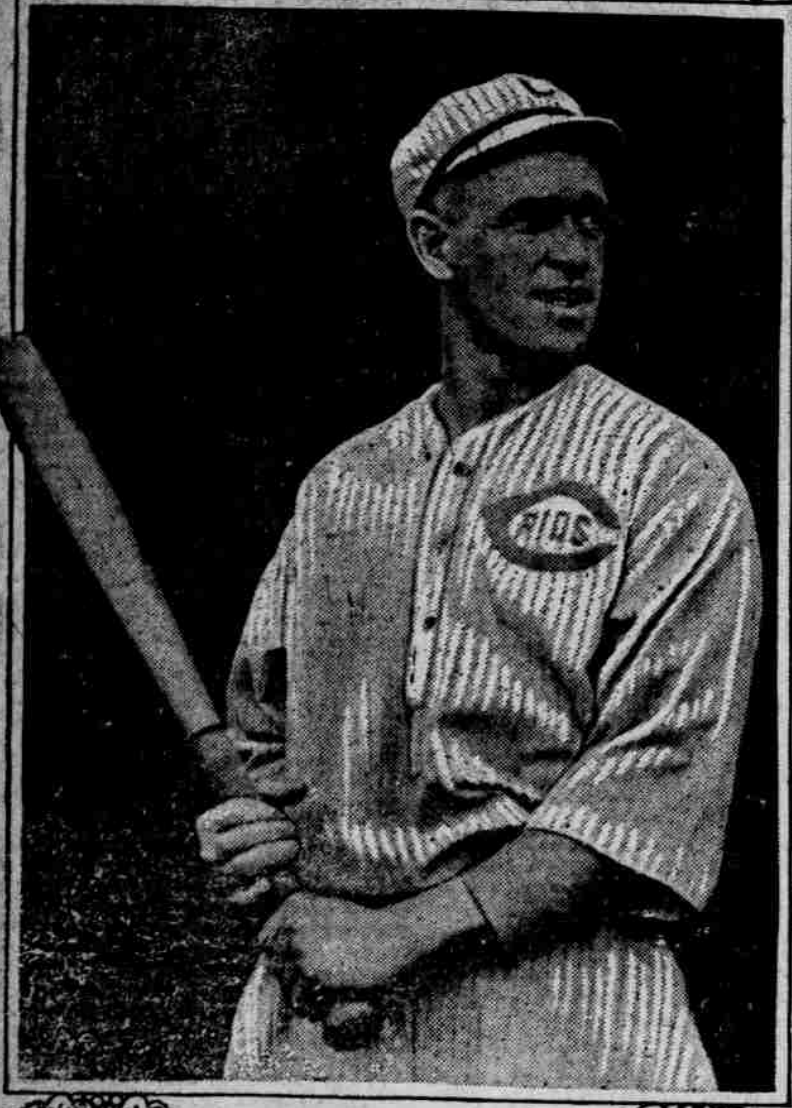


Photo by American Press Association.

HAL CHASE, the veteran first sacker, is playing a wonderful game at station No. 1 for the Cincinnati Reds this season. Last year many experts said Hal had just about shot his bolt, but he has fooled them. This year he has put up a wonderful all around game. According to Cincinnati baseball critics, his playing places him above all other first basemen.

Foul Strike Rule Not Clearly Understood by All Baseball Fans

IT is so rare for a batter to be called out on a foul strike that many players, as well as fans, do not understand the meaning of the term. A foul strike is neither a foul nor a strike, which makes the expression somewhat confusing. A foul strike is committed when a batter hits a fair ball while outside the lines drawn for the batsman. All fans have noticed the paralogisms on each side of the home plate, which are usually called batter's boxes. They are distinctly visible at the start of every game, though the lines are usually erased by the pressure of many ample hoofs before the contest has proceeded to any great length.

These boxes are six feet long and four feet wide, and there is one on each side of the plate, one for right hand hitters and the other for the left hand sluggers. The side line of the batter's box is six inches from the plate, which prevents a batter from

crowding the plate too closely. To bat legally the hitter must be in his box when he hits the ball.

This rule is to prevent him from running up into the diamond on the one side or from stepping back so far as to interfere with the catcher on the other. No ball can be legally hit unless the batter is in his box when he meets the ball with his bat. He has a range of six feet forward and back and of four feet the other way, which gives him ample room to move around and take any position he cares to assume. He commits a foul strike if he rushes out of his box to hit the ball when it is pitched up to him.

The penalty for the action is to be called out. It so seldom occurs, however, that many fans have never seen an out recorded under this rule. When a batter is called out for making a foul strike the catcher is given credit for the put out the same as if he had struck out in the usual way.

Theory In Playing Golf

THE game of golf is incumbered with large masses of theory and supposition expounded by all classes of players. In the locker room of any club may be heard remarks of this sort: "I'm going out today and endeavor to play my iron shots with the push Chick Evans uses. Don't you think, Jack, I'd put straighter on my right foot than off my left?"

These prospective changes are all very good and show a disposition to improve the player's game, but in a great many cases they seem to prove a hindrance rather than a help. One common fallacy is that the right foot being raised on the upstroke is a separate part of the swing. It is a component part of the stroke and should not be a forced movement. It should be automatic and coincident with the turning of the shoulders. Of course, we are speaking of right handed players. In the southpaw's case the positions are reversed.

Another bit of theoretical guesswork is concerned with the attempts made by some players to introduce a hook into their long game. A hook is a very fine thing if it can be controlled, but it is one of the most difficult of shots to keep in subjection. After attaining it with the wooden clubs it is liable to spread to the irons, and naturally the player is frequently off the line and, in any event, finds it hard to put a

stop on the ball as a result of the run a hook invariably possesses. Then, again, some players seem to think that it is necessary to assist a lofting iron by pushing their wrists in under the ball, almost always resulting in a missed shot. The club can be relied on to do the work, and it needs no assistance from the player. A good many golfers harbor the theory that all that is needed to improve their game is to follow some crack player and copy his style. Men are not built alike. Some men are tall and rangy, while others are inclined to avoidrumples, and it can be seen that a standard swing ought not to be advocated. But often a pitiable effort to follow the style of some leading player is seen.

STEEPLECHASE RACING.

STEEPLECHASE racing has often been looked upon as a dangerous sport. Horses have been known to bolt or fall in taking the hurdles, and there have been cases of serious accidents to riders. Willie Allen, however, is one jockey who has found the game just as safe as on the flat. Statistics show that he has accepted mounts in 140 races during his career on the turf, and he is still going. He has been in several accidents, but none of them of a serious nature.

"Iron Man" In Boat: Rows In Four Races

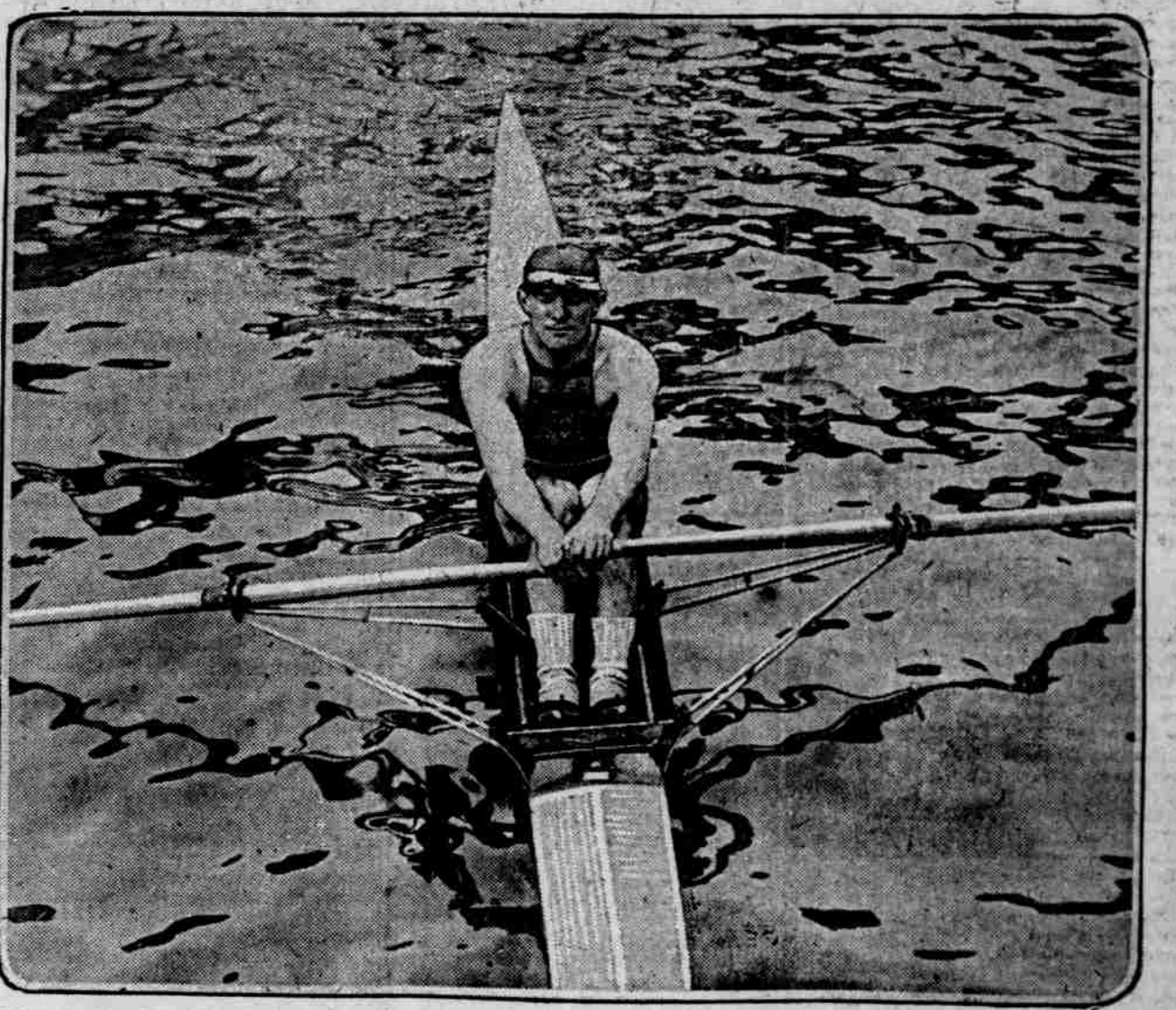


Photo by American Press Association.

JACK KELLY, the crack senior single sculler of the Vesper Boat Club, joined the ranks of the athletic "iron men" recently by stroking three winning crews and also winning the senior single sculls race in the Schuylkill river regatta, rowed over a mile and a quarter straightaway course on the Schuylkill river. Kelly rowed five and a quarter miles in about five hours, stroking the senior double sculls, senior centipede and senior eight oared shell crews.

BIG OUTLAY FOR TENNIS.

MORE than \$100,000 is to be expended on the new grounds of the Chicago Tennis club. When the present arrangements are completed the organization will have one of the finest tennis plants in the middle west and will stage numerous state and sectional championship tournaments. The site of the club covers two blocks on the north side and cost \$70,000.

WASHINGTON PLAYERS KICK AT WHITE SOX DIAMOND.

THE Washington players are kicking at the White Sox diamond, which they say is the worst in any ball park in the big league. George McBride says while digging his cleats into the shortstop patch he located and dug up a railroad spike. Of late the Senators have been nipped by the worst slump in years.

CHICAGO IS BEST, SAYS FISHER.

"I think," says Bob Fisher, the Cubs' catcher, "that the Chicago fans are the best in the business—that is when it comes to giving the home players a fair deal. When I played in Brooklyn it was something awful to hear the mob pan any home player who made an error or fell down at bat. In Cincinnati, also, the fans are usually kindly and good natured."

JOHNSON THROWS FASTEST BALL.

THERE is nothing to it, Walter Johnson throws the fastest ball I have ever looked upon," said Harry Davis. "He cuts that fast one over so that you cannot see it. I have battled against all the great pitchers of the past, even our own pitchers, but never hit."